

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-10. (canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A dishwasher comprising:

a washing container ~~for retaining~~ to retain therein objects to be washed by the dishwasher; and

a system ~~for drying~~ to dry objects to be washed, the system including ~~heat generating means for heating~~ a heater to heat at least part of the air present in the dishwasher and a humidity sensor ~~that detects~~ to detect the humidity of at least part of the air present in the dishwasher, the heater being controllable solely as a function of the detected humidity.

12. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 11, wherein the system for drying the objects to be washed includes a selected one of an electronic controller means and a non-electronic controller means for controlling the system for drying the objects to be washed as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

13. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 11, wherein the system for drying the objects to be washed is switched off in a selected one of an independent manner and a non-independent manner as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

14. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 11, wherein the humidity sensor is arranged in the washing container of the dishwasher.

15. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 11, wherein the humidity sensor is arranged in an upper area of the dishwasher.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for cleaning and drying objects to be washed in dishwashers, the method comprising the steps of:

subjecting the objects to be washed to at least one of a cleaning rinsing and a clear rinsing process;

after the at least one of the cleaning rinsing and the clear rinsing process, subjecting the objects to be washed to a drying process, wherein at least some of the air present in the dishwasher is heated by ~~heat-generating means~~ a heater; and

detecting the humidity-of at least some of the air present in the dishwasher by a humidity sensor during the drying process; and

controlling the heater solely as a function of the detected humidity.

17. (Currently Amended) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 16, wherein the drying process is controlled as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor ~~preferably~~ by means of an electronic controller.

18. (Previously Presented) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 16, wherein the drying process is ended as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

19. (Currently Amended) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 16, wherein the operation of the ~~heat-generating means~~ heater is controlled as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor ~~preferably~~ by means of an electronic controller.

20. (Currently Amended) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 16, wherein the operation of the ~~heat-generating-means~~ heater is ended as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

21. (New) A dishwasher comprising:
a washing container to retain therein objects to be washed by the dishwasher;
a system to dry objects to be washed, the system including a heater to heat at least part of the air present in the dishwasher and a humidity sensor to detect the humidity of at least part of the air present in the dishwasher; and
a non-electronic controller to control the system for drying the objects to be washed as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

22. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the system for drying the objects to be washed is switchable to an off position in a selected one of an independent manner and a non-independent manner as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

23. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the humidity sensor is arranged in the washing container of the dishwasher.

24. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 21, wherein the humidity sensor is arranged in an upper area of the dishwasher.

25. (New) A method for cleaning and drying objects to be washed in dishwashers, the method comprising:
subjecting the objects to be washed to at least one of a cleaning rinsing and a clear rinsing process;

after the at least one of the cleaning rinsing and the clear rinsing process,
subjecting the objects to be washed to a drying process, wherein at least some of the air
present in the dishwasher is heated by a heater;

detecting the humidity-of at least some of the air present in the dishwasher by a
humidity sensor during the drying process; and

controlling the drying process with a non-electronic controller a function of the
humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

26. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to
claim 25, wherein the drying process is ended solely as a function of the humidity
determined by the humidity sensor.

27. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to
claim 25, wherein the operation of the heater is controlled as a function of the humidity
determined by the humidity sensor by means of the non-electronic controller.

28. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to
claim 25, wherein the operation of the heater is ended as a function of the humidity
determined by the humidity sensor.

29. (New) A dishwasher comprising:

a washing container to retain therein objects to be washed by the dishwasher; and
a system to dry objects to be washed, the system including a heater to heat at least
part of the air present in the dishwasher and a humidity sensor to detect the humidity of at
least part of the air present in the dishwasher,

wherein the system for drying the objects to be washed is switchable to an off
position in an independent manner as a function of the humidity determined by the
humidity sensor.

30. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 29, wherein the system for drying the objects to be washed includes a selected one of an electronic controller and a non-electronic controller for controlling the system for drying the objects to be washed as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

31. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 29, wherein the humidity sensor is arranged in the washing container of the dishwasher.

32. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 29, wherein the humidity sensor is arranged in an upper area of the dishwasher.

33. (New) A method for cleaning and drying objects to be washed in dishwashers, the method comprising:

subjecting the objects to be washed to at least one of a cleaning rinsing and a clear rinsing process;

after the at least one of the cleaning rinsing and the clear rinsing process, subjecting the objects to be washed to a drying process, wherein at least some of the air present in the dishwasher is heated by a heater;

detecting the humidity-of at least some of the air present in the dishwasher by a humidity sensor during the drying process; and

controlling the drying process in an independent manner as a function of the detected humidity.

34. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 33, wherein the drying process is controlled as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor by means of a non-electronic or an electronic controller.

35. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 33, wherein the drying process is ended as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.

36. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 33, wherein the operation of the heater is controlled as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor by means of a non-electronic or an electronic controller.

37. (New) The method for drying objects to be washed in dishwashers according to claim 33, wherein the operation of the heater is ended as a function of the humidity determined by the humidity sensor.